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Agenda item 69 (*d*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 8 December 2016

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/71/L.28 and Add.1)*]

71/125. Persistent legacy of the Chernobyl disaster

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 68/99 of 13 December 2013 on the strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, as well as its other relevant resolutions, on closure of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant, and taking note of the decisions adopted by the relevant United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in the implementation of those resolutions,

Acknowledging the importance of the efforts made by the Governments of Belarus, the Russian Federation and Ukraine, the United Nations system, other international organizations and civil society to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster,

Acknowledging also the organization of the international conference entitled "Chernobyl 30 years later: from an emergency to a revival and sustainable social and economic development of affected territories", held in Minsk on 25 April 2016, and taking note of the adoption of the Minsk Declaration,[1]

Recognizing, three decades after the Chernobyl disaster, the still-persistent serious long-term consequences thereof, as well as the continuing related needs of the affected communities and territories,

Noting the completion of the Decade of Recovery and Sustainable Development of the Affected Regions, 2006–2016,[2]

Recalling its resolutions 53/199 of 15 December 1998 and 61/185 of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years and Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries,

[1] A/70/916, annex.

[2] See resolution 62/9.

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Welcoming global efforts to enhance awareness of the needs of people and territories affected by the Chernobyl disaster, including through web-based resources,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on optimizing the international effort to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster;[3]

2. *Greatly appreciates* the coordinating role of the United Nations Development Programme in the international cooperation on Chernobyl, including the work undertaken by the Inter-Agency Task Force on Chernobyl;

3. *Acknowledges* the need for continuing international cooperation on Chernobyl under the auspices of the United Nations that can contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development[4] and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030;[5]

4. *Stresses* the need, in this regard, to continue the environmental and health monitoring of the Chernobyl-affected regions and communities for the purpose of assessing the efficiency of international assistance;

5. *Encourages* Member States and all interested partners to support international cooperation on Chernobyl aimed at achieving the Sustainable Development Goals in the Chernobyl-affected regions, including through partnerships, innovation and investment;

6. *Acknowledges* the need to enhance networking around specialized national scientific institutions to study long-term medical, radioecological, radiobiological and other consequences of the Chernobyl disaster;

7. *Recognizes* the role of regional centres, as referred to in the Minsk Declaration,[1] in raising awareness among the population of the Chernobyl-affected regions on the issues of personal and social safety to ensure better adaptation with respect to the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster;

8. *Requests* the United Nations Development Programme and the Inter-Agency Task Force on Chernobyl to continue to coordinate international cooperation on Chernobyl as a means to further the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and to continue to develop, in collaboration with the affected countries and in consultation with Member States, a concise outline of general principles of engagement of the United Nations system in Chernobyl recovery efforts, along with agency-specific priorities, following the completion of the Decade of Recovery and Sustainable Development of the Affected Regions, 2006–2016;

9. *Decides*, in order to raise awareness of the long-term consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, to designate 26 April as International Chernobyl Disaster Remembrance Day, to be observed every year beginning in 2017, invites all Member States, relevant agencies of the United Nations system and other international organizations, as well as civil society, to observe the day, and notes that the costs of all activities that may arise should be met from voluntary contributions;

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[3] A/71/411.

[4] Resolution 70/1.

[5] Resolution 69/283, annex II.

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session, under a separate sub-item, a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

57th plenary meeting
8 December 2016